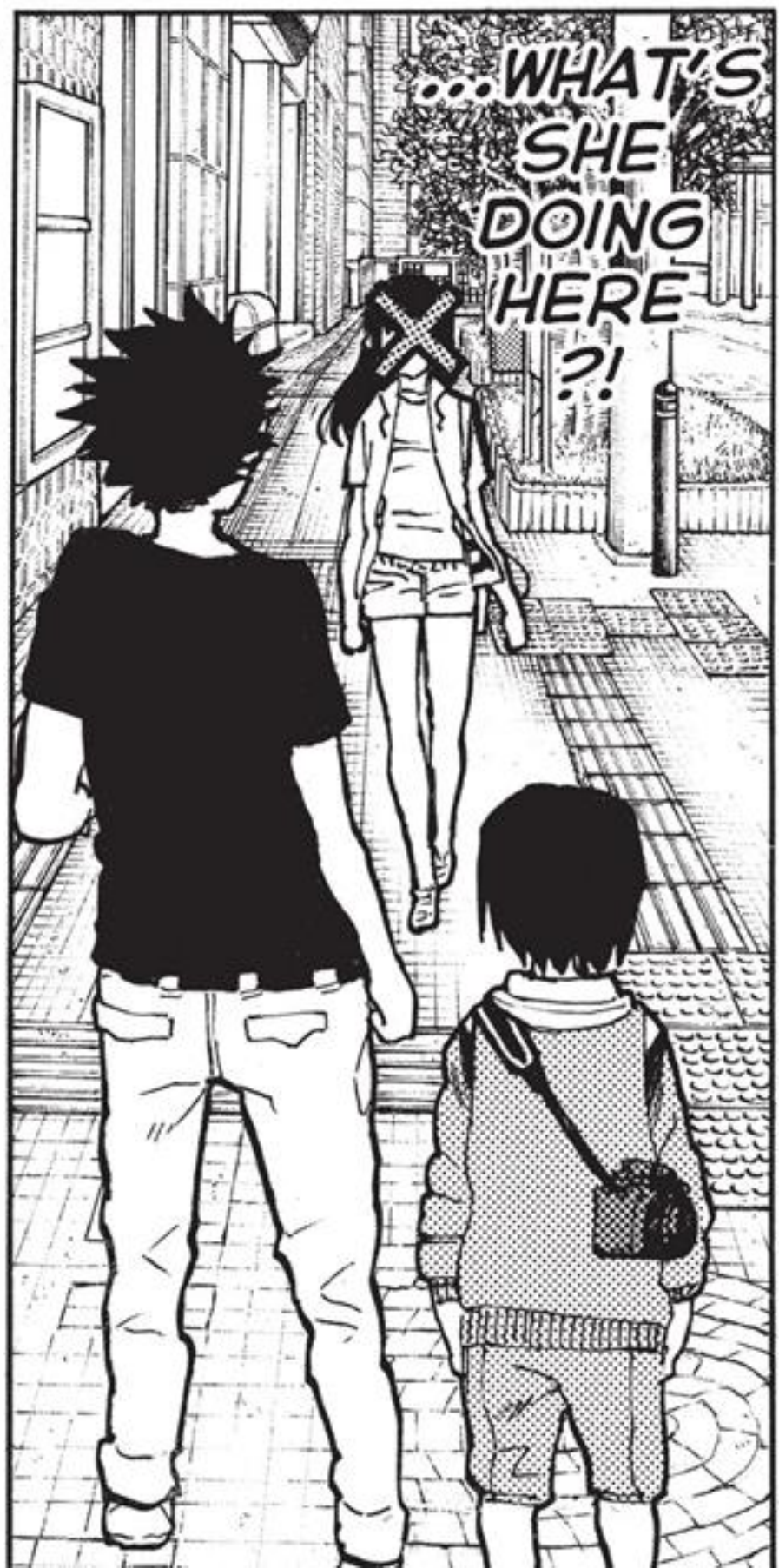
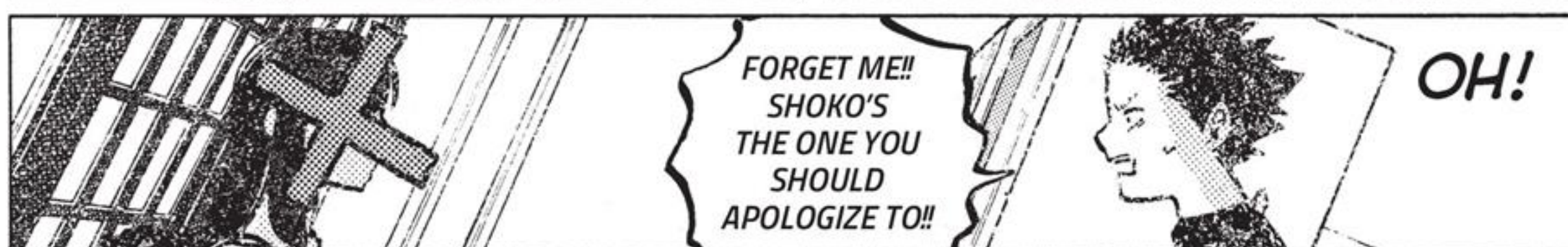
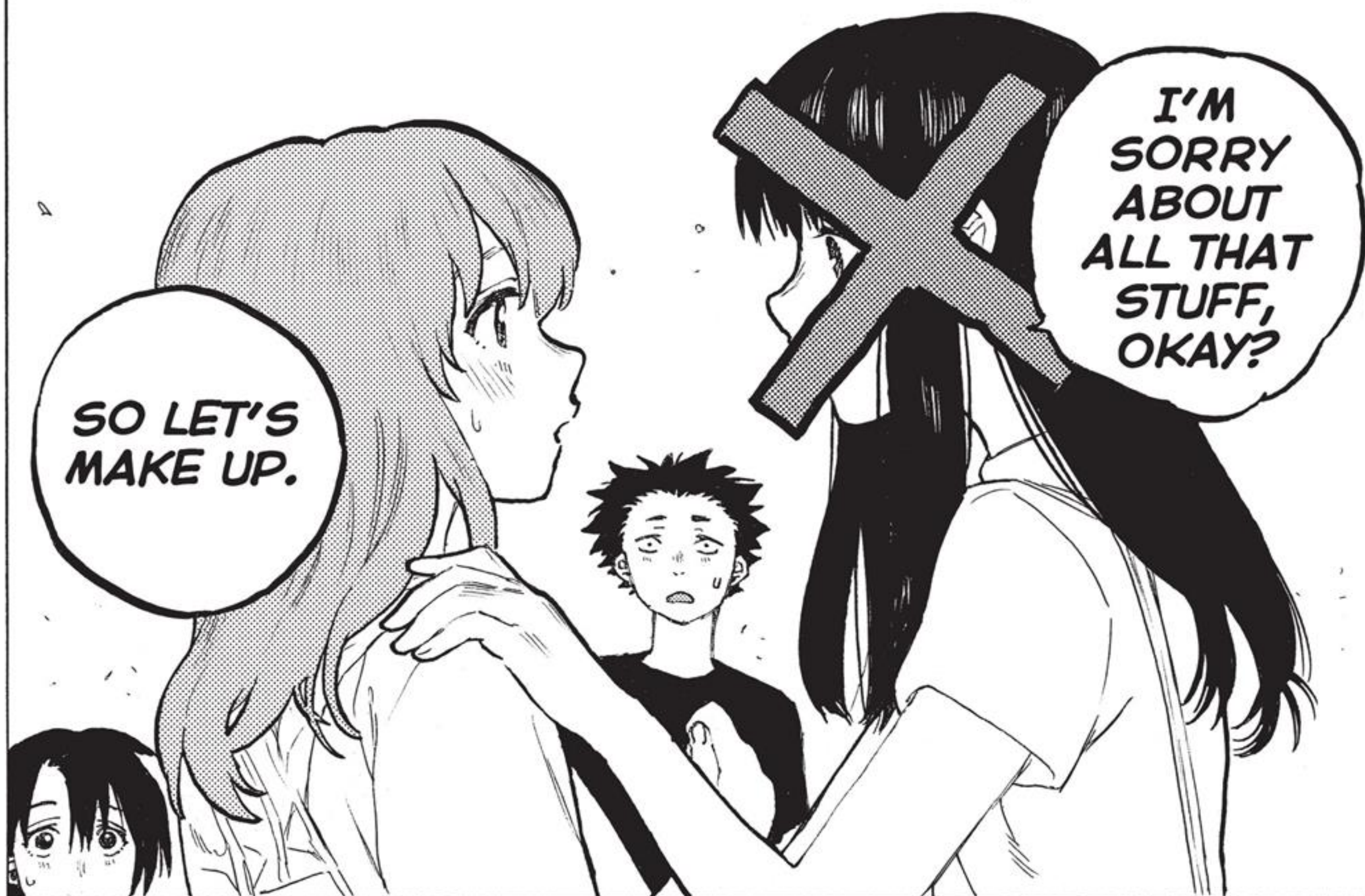
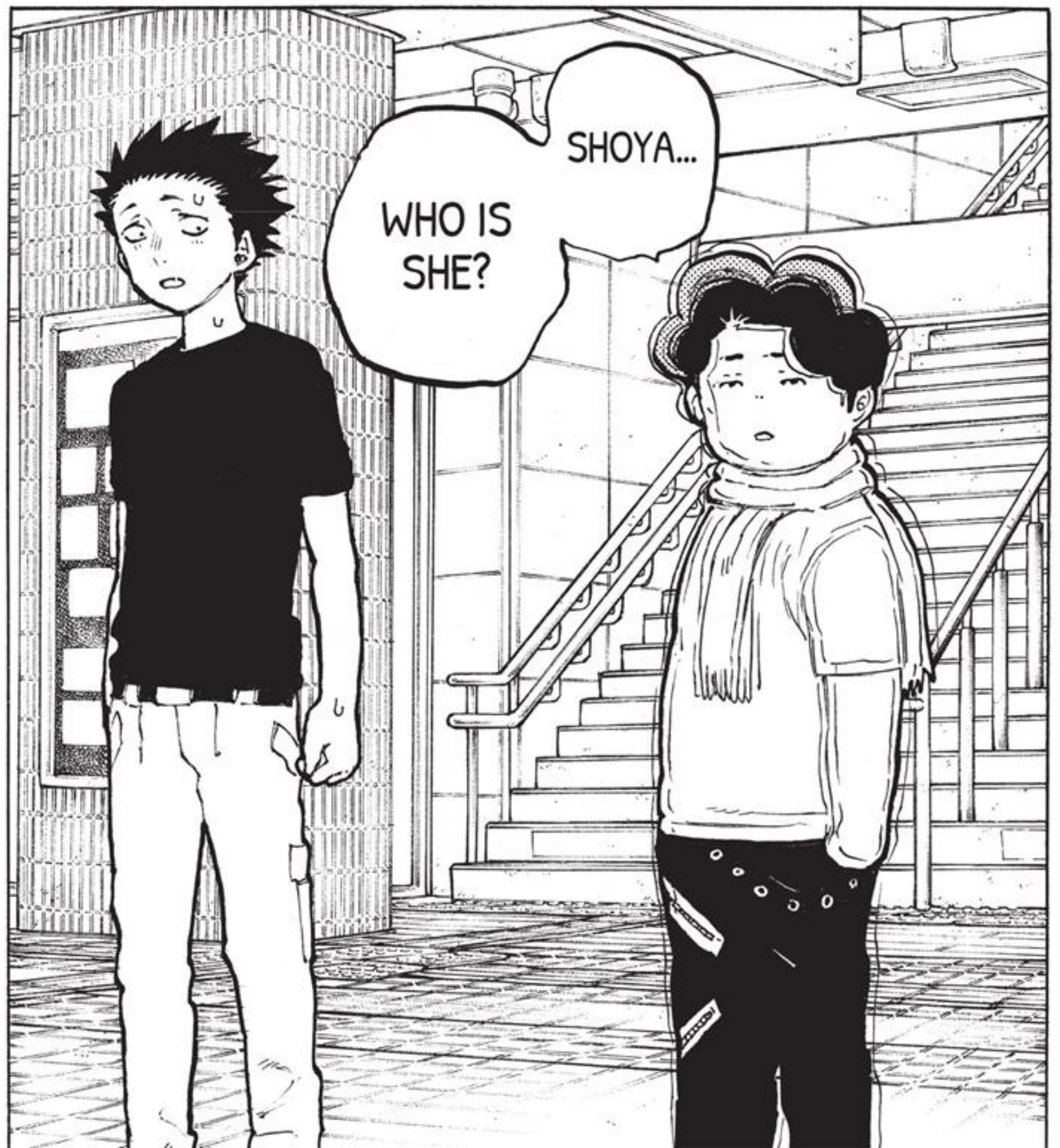
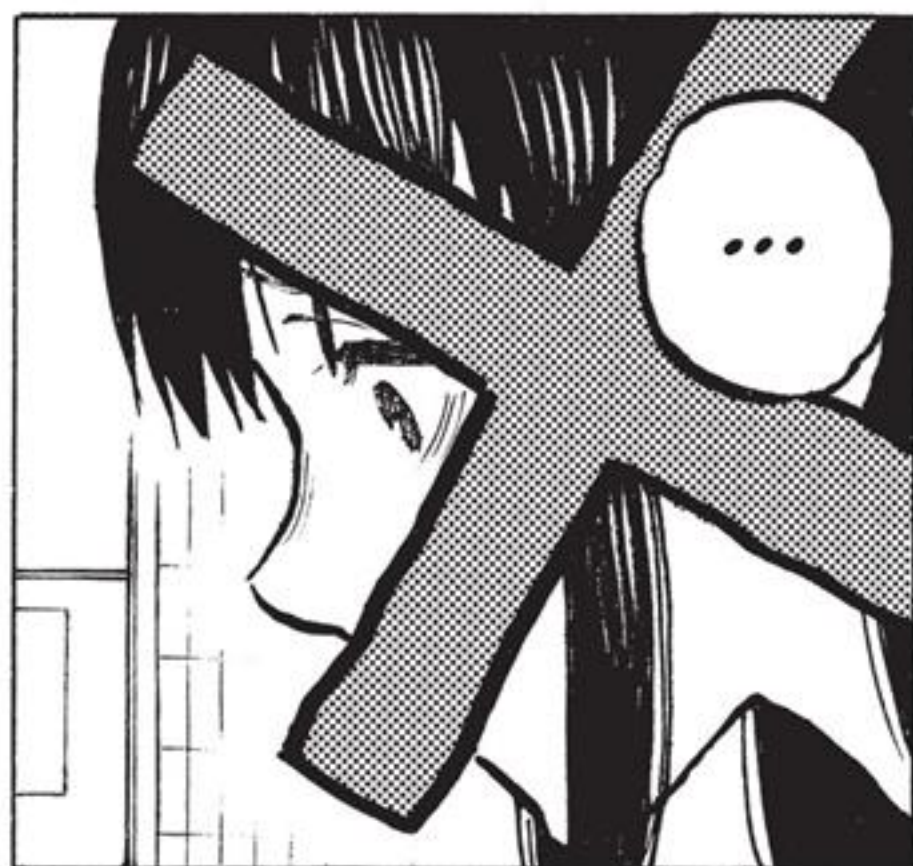
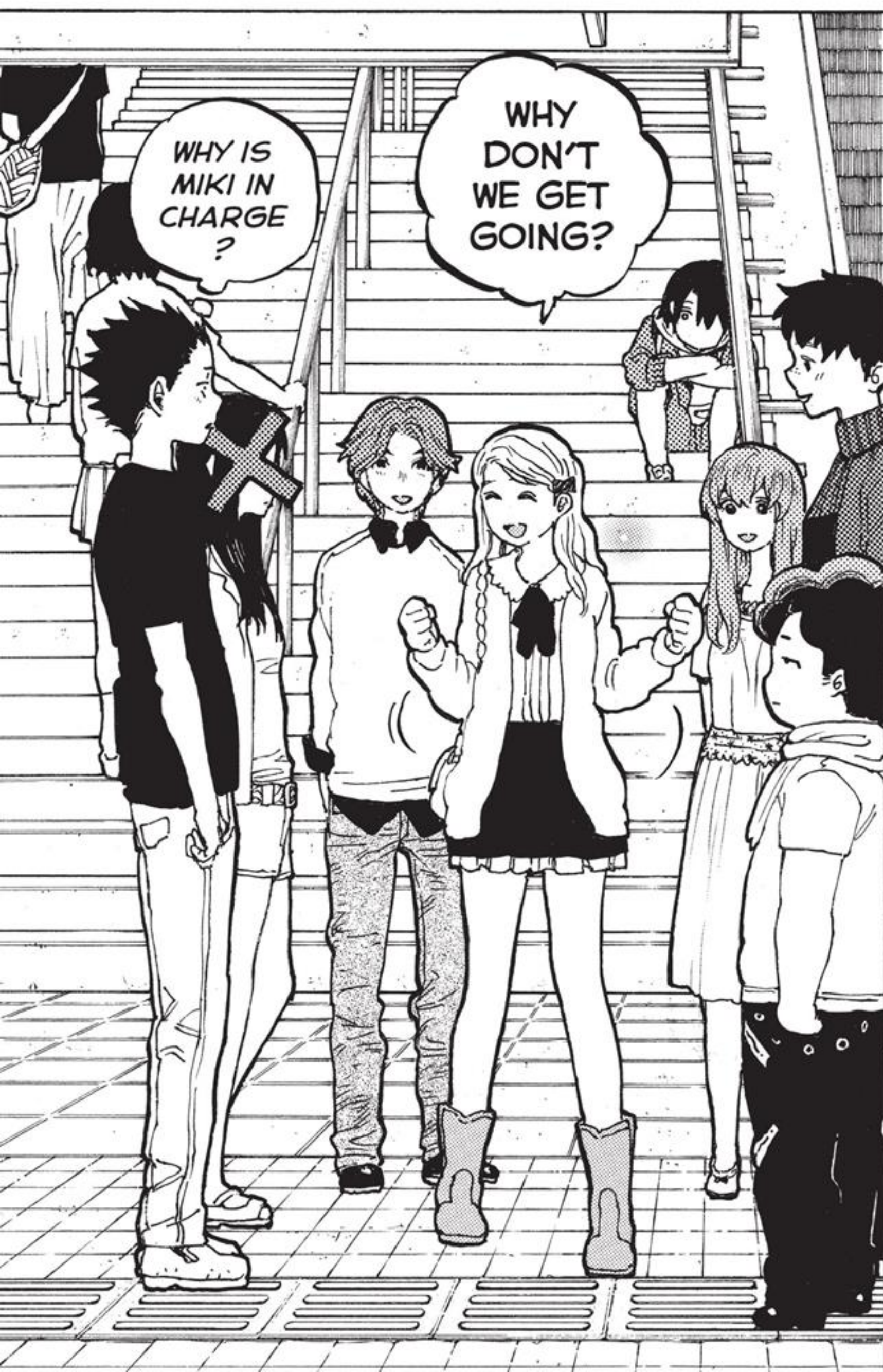
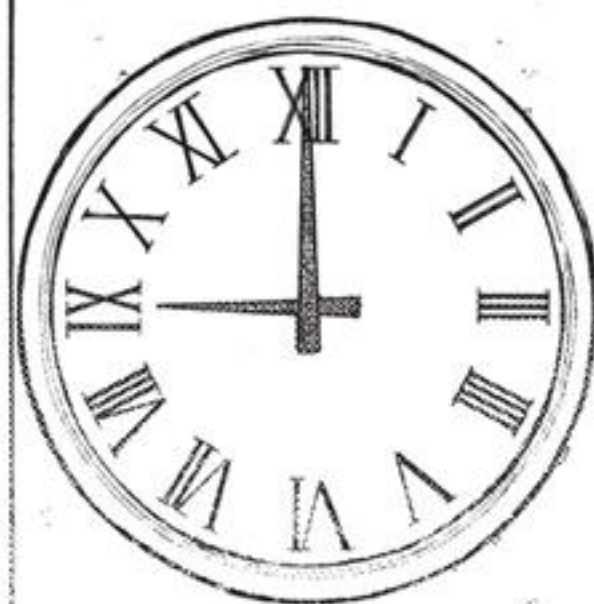


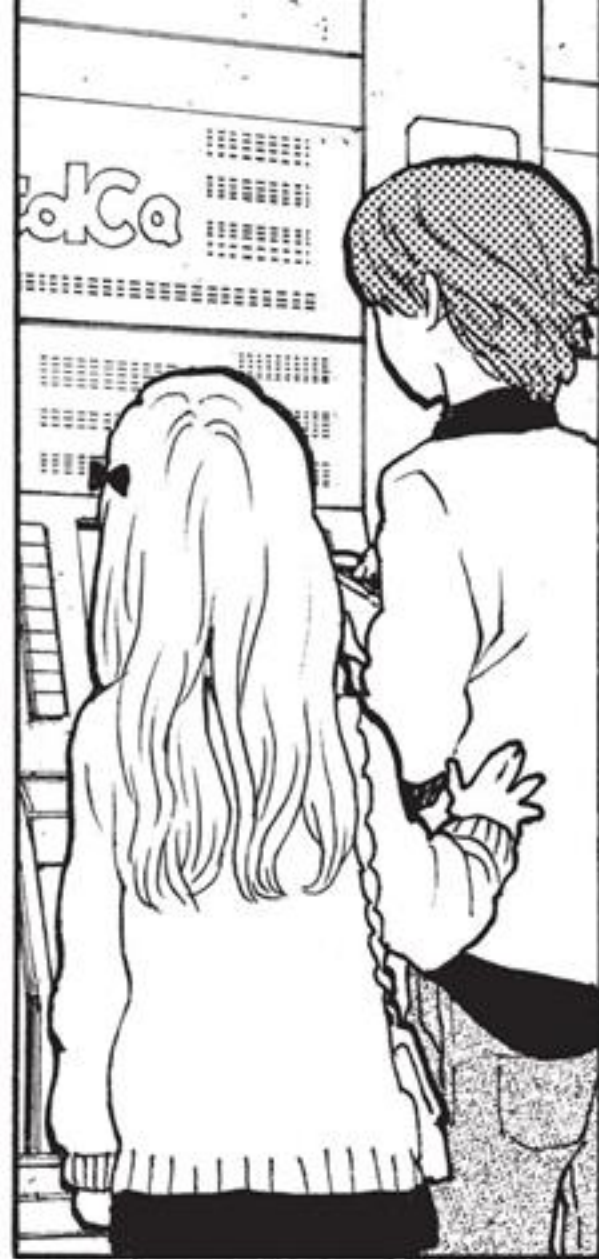




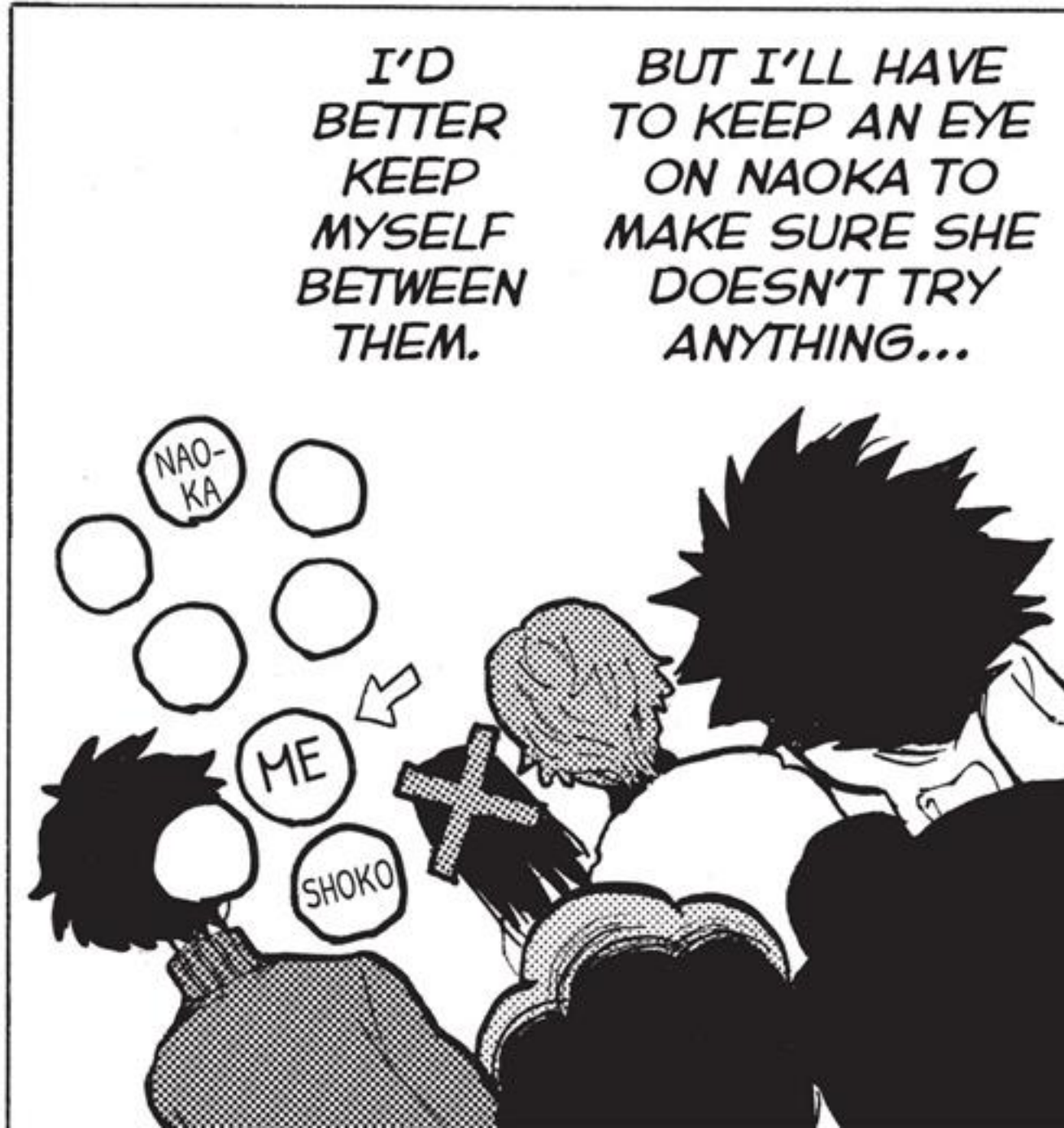


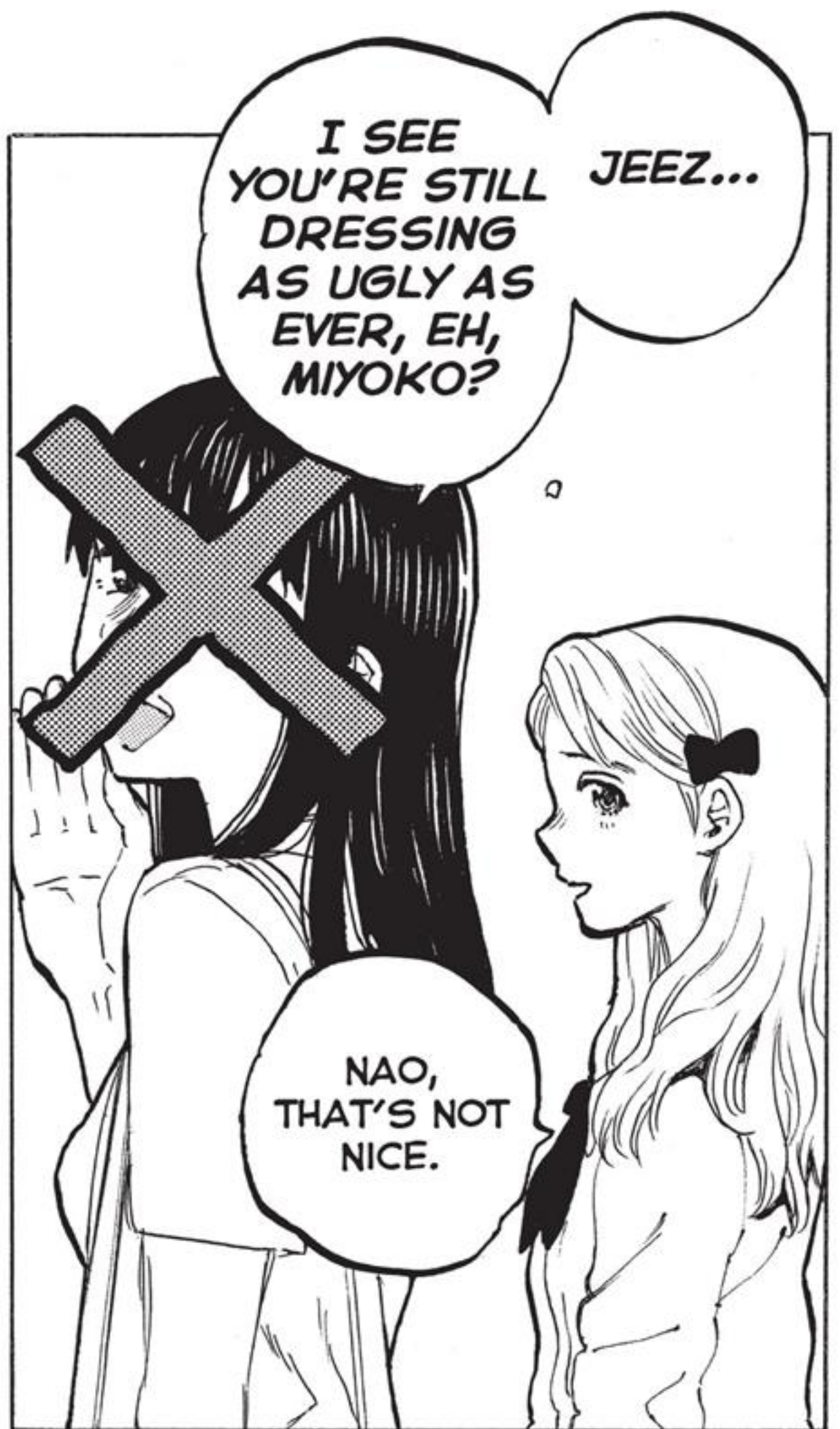
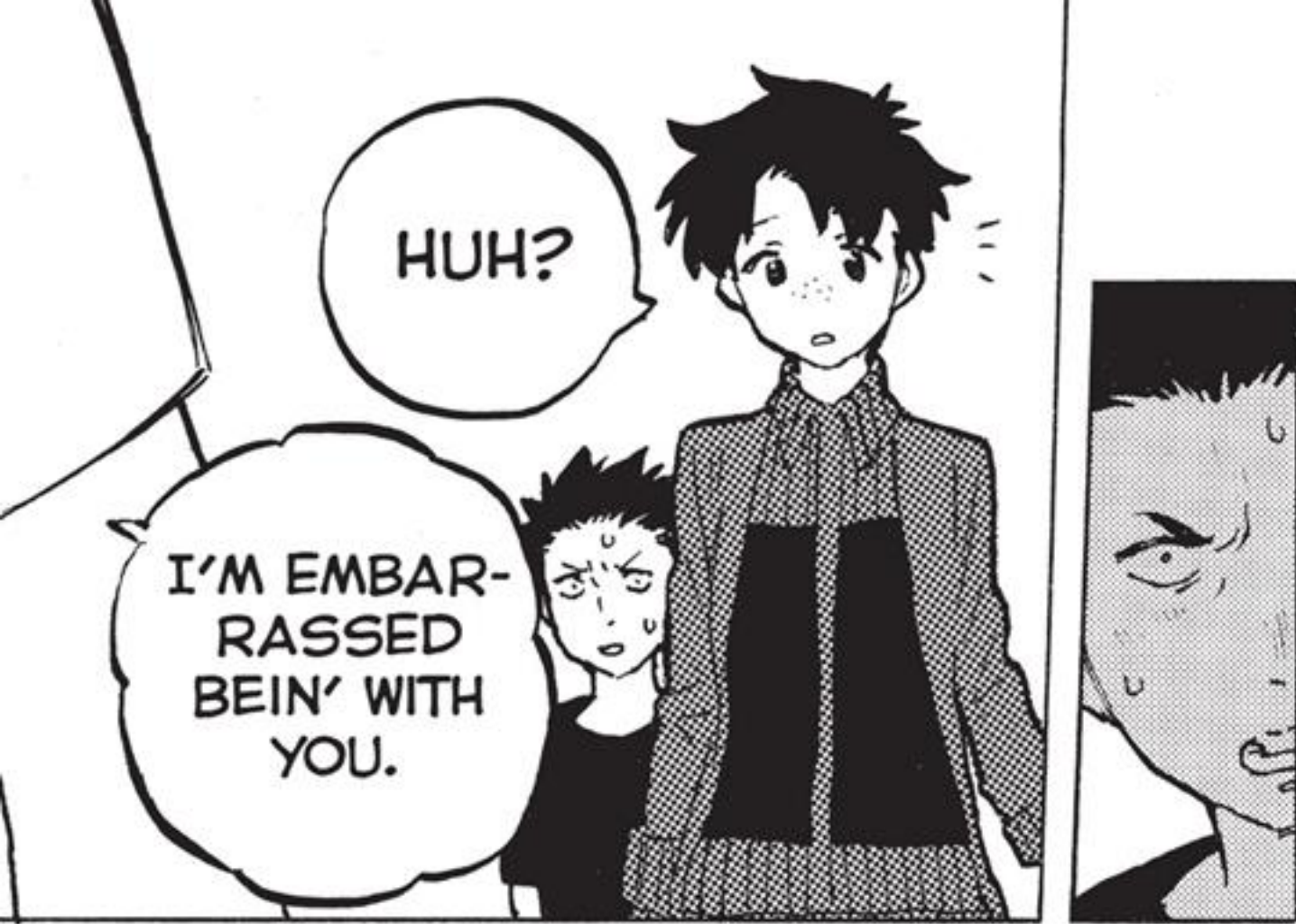






WE BARELY KNOW EACH OTHER... ISN'T THIS GROUP MORE LIKE THOSE "PRETEND FRIENDS" NAOKA WAS TALKING ABOUT?







HUH ?

WAIT...
ARE YOU
TWO...



...FRIENDS ?

HUUUH ?

IT'S NOT
THE COLORS
THAT ARE THE
PROBLEM,
STUPID. IT'S
THE DESIGN!



BUT...



OH YEAH,
DON'T THEY
GO TO SCHOOL
TOGETHER?
IS THAT WHY?
WAIT...BUT...

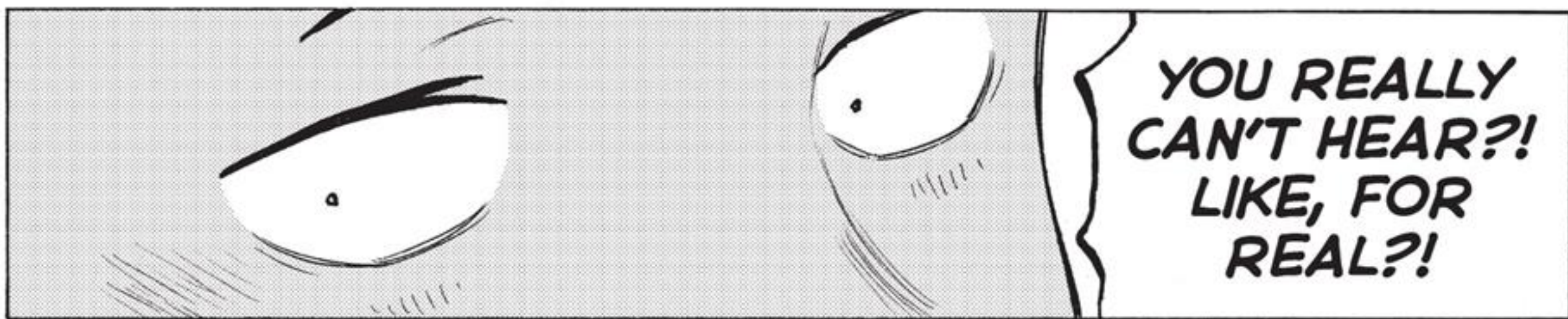


WASN'T
IT
TUESDAY ?

COME TO
THINK OF
IT, WHEN'S
THE DEAD-
LINE FOR
THAT HOME-
WORK?

YIKES,
THEN
I'M IN
TROU-
BLE.

...



**YOU REALLY
CAN'T HEAR?!
LIKE, FOR
REAL?!**

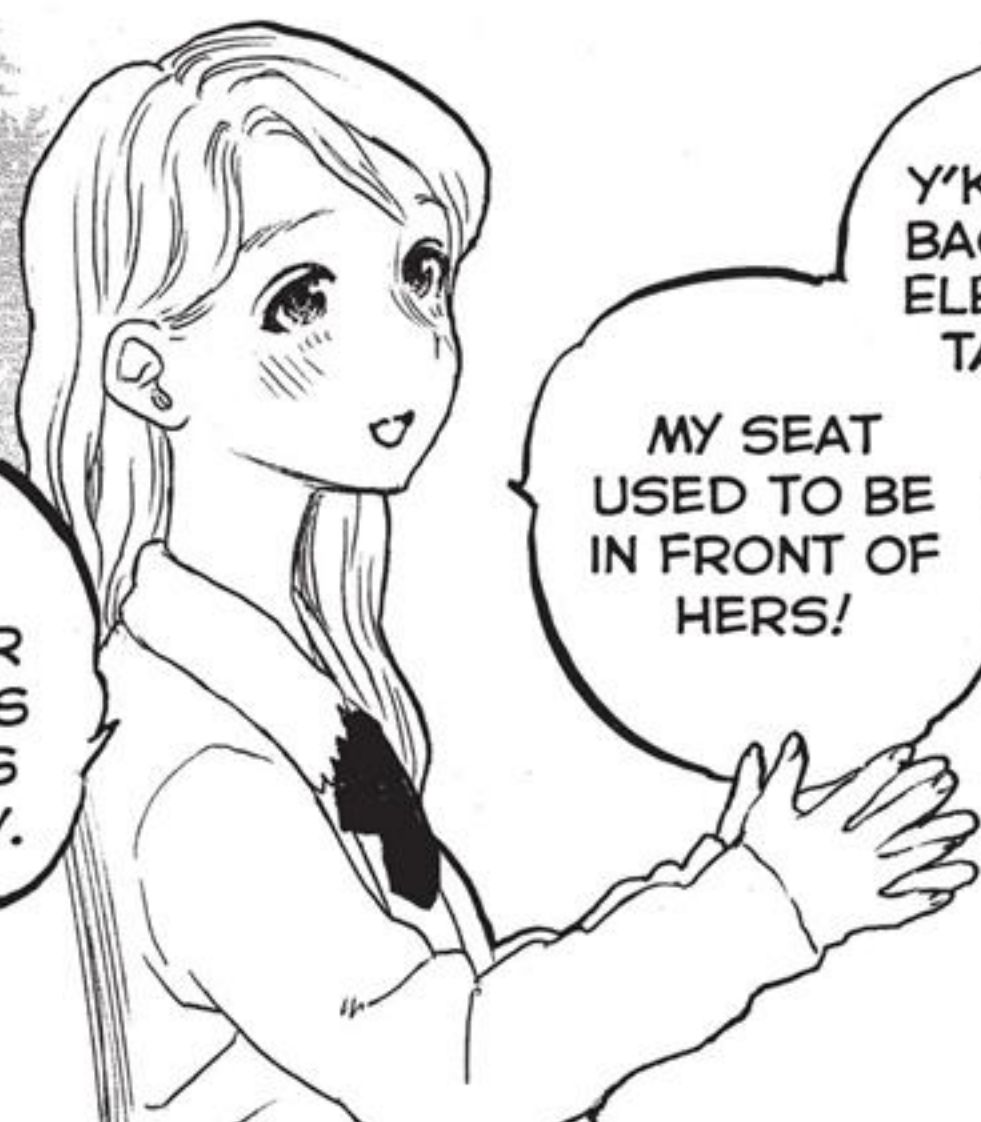




MIKI'S
TALKING AS
IF ALL THE
MEMORIES
WERE
GOOD...

IT WAS A
VERY NEW
EXPERIENCE
FOR ME.

AND I
USED TO
TEACH HER
ALL SORTS
OF THINGS
EVERY DAY.



Y'KNOW,
BACK IN
ELEMEN-
TARY,

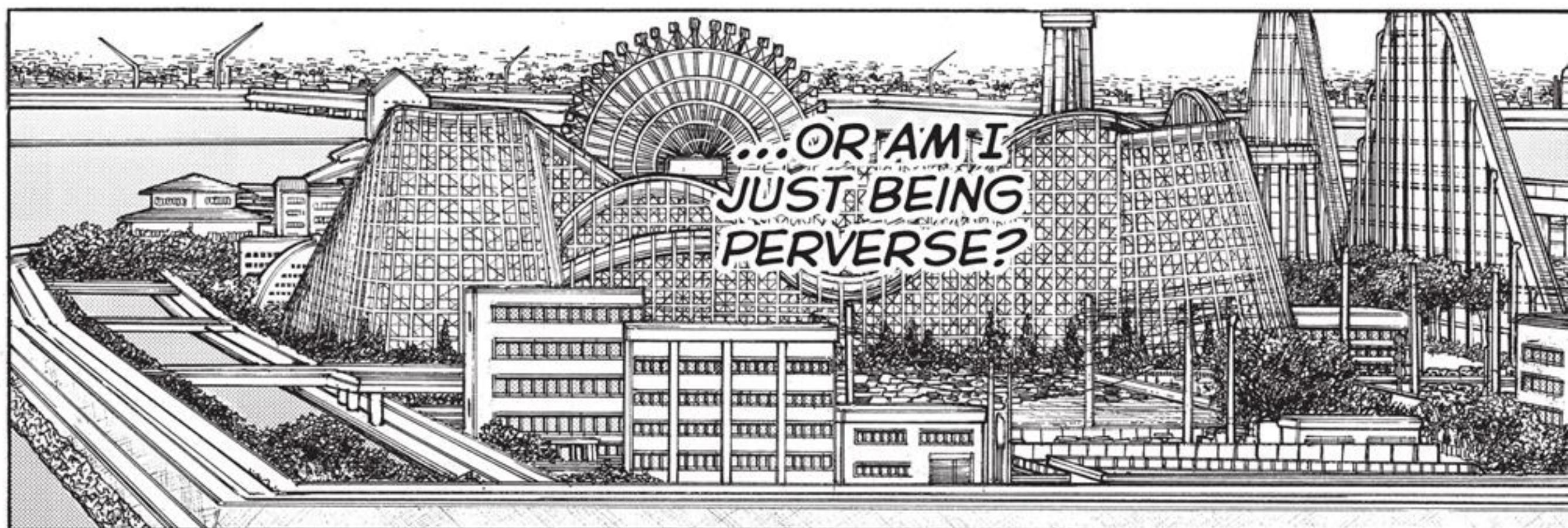
MY SEAT
USED TO BE
IN FRONT OF
HERS!



...



MAN, IT'S
HARD TO
TALK TO
SHOKO
WITH HER
HERE...



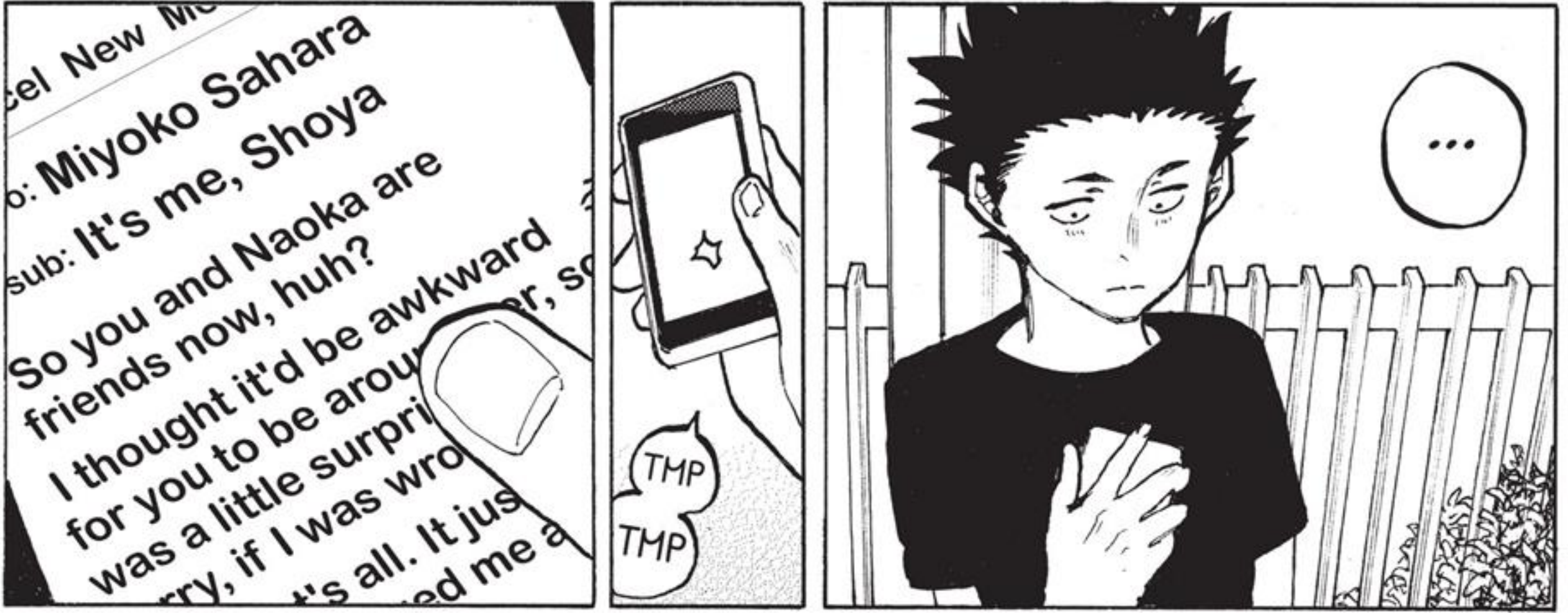
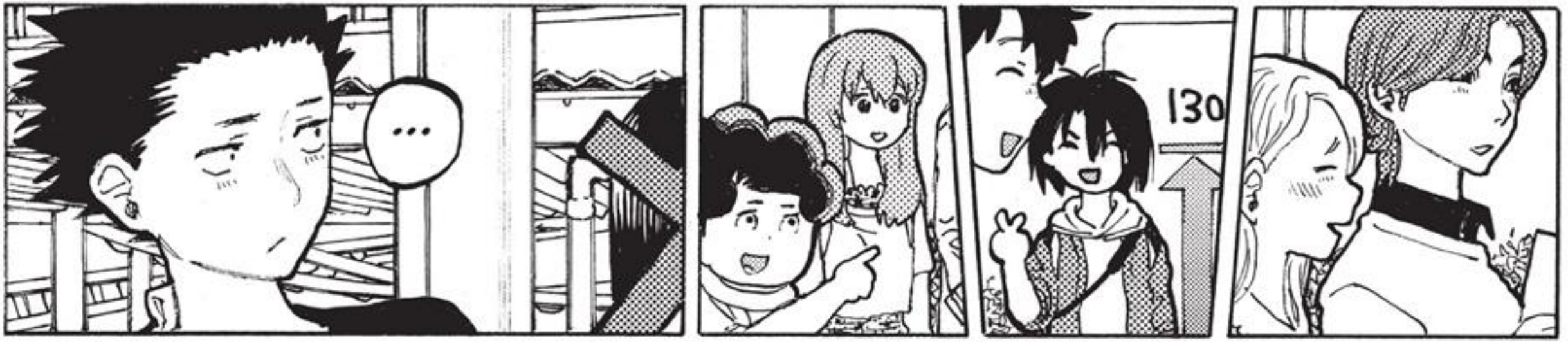
...OR AM I
JUST BEING
PERVERSE?



LET'S RIDE
THAT FIRST,
EVERYONE!

TRY TO KEEP
UP SO YOU
DON'T GET
SEPARATED
FROM THE
GROUP!







THEN...
ARE YOU
OKAY
RIDING
IT NOW?



I USED
TO BE TOO
SCARED TO
RIDE THIS
ONE.



I FIGURE
I'LL WAIT
UNTIL AFTER
THE RIDE TO
DECIDE IF
IT'S SCARY.

I MEAN,
IT'S BEEN
FIVE
YEARS
SINCE
THEN.



20000M



NOW
WE'VE GOT
THE SAME
HAIR.



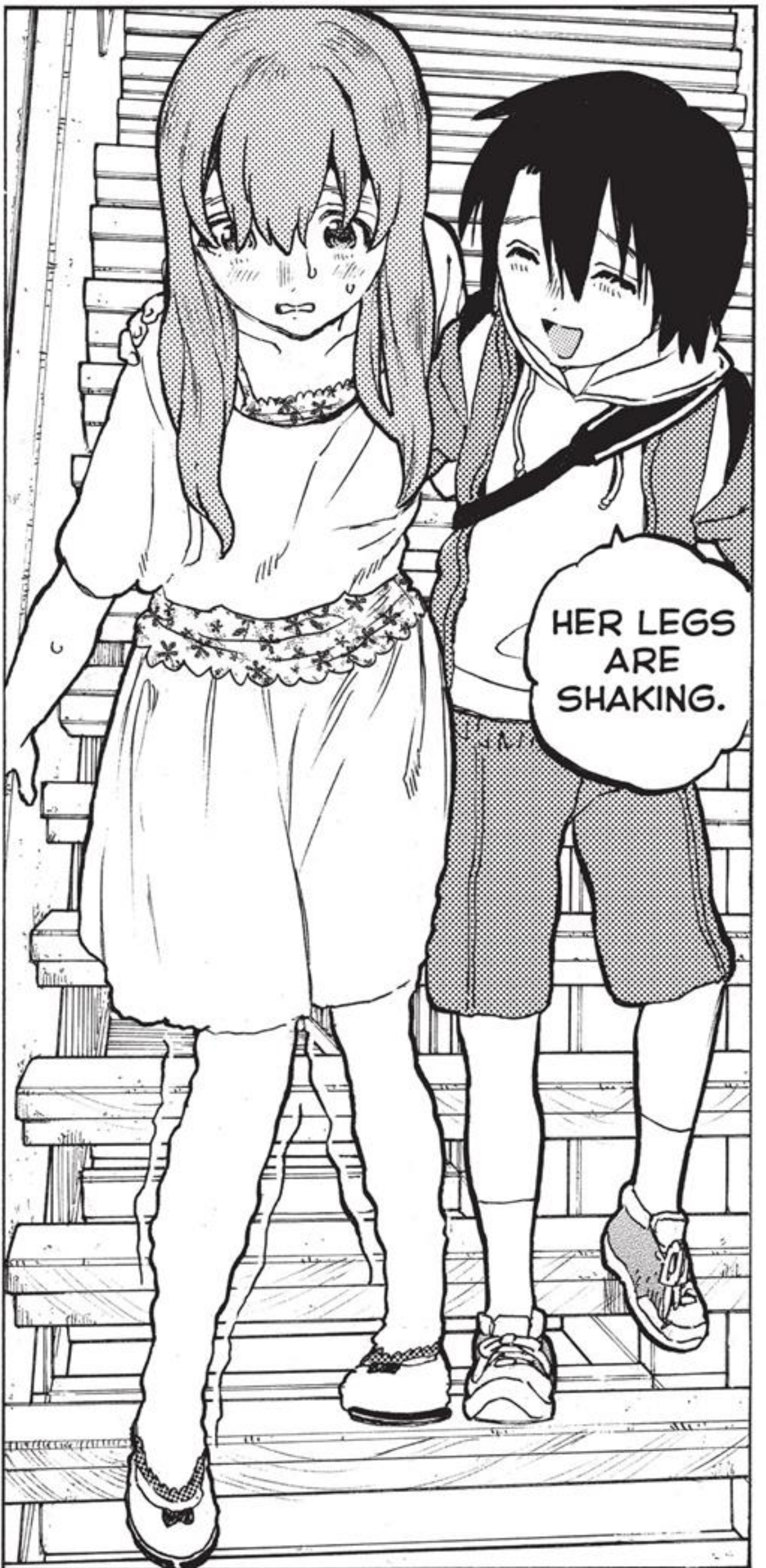
FSHHHHHHHHH



THAT
WAS FUN,
WASN'T
IT?

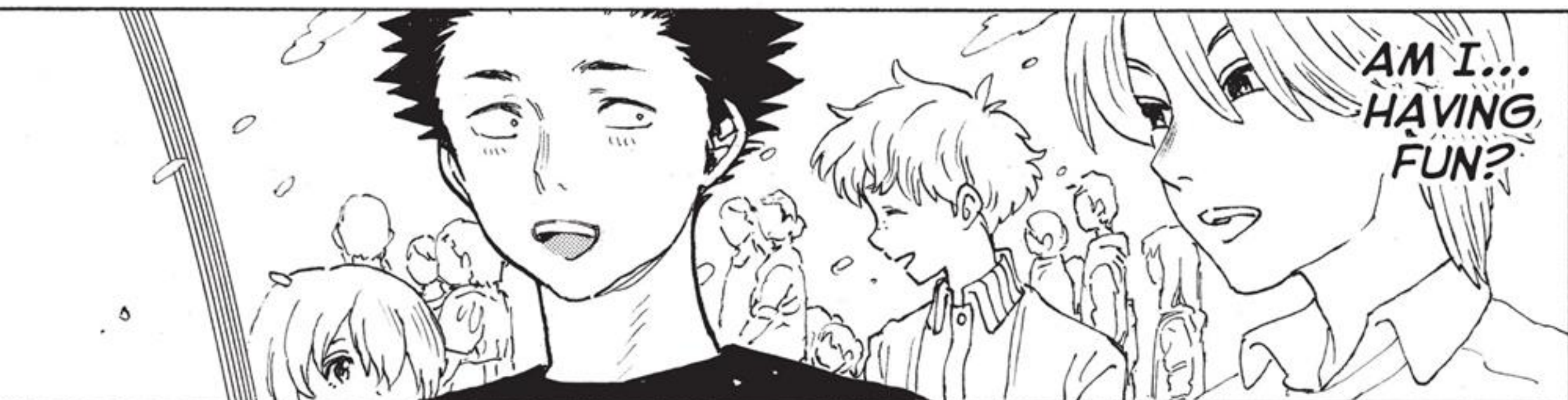


NEXT UP IS THE HAUNTED HOUSE!





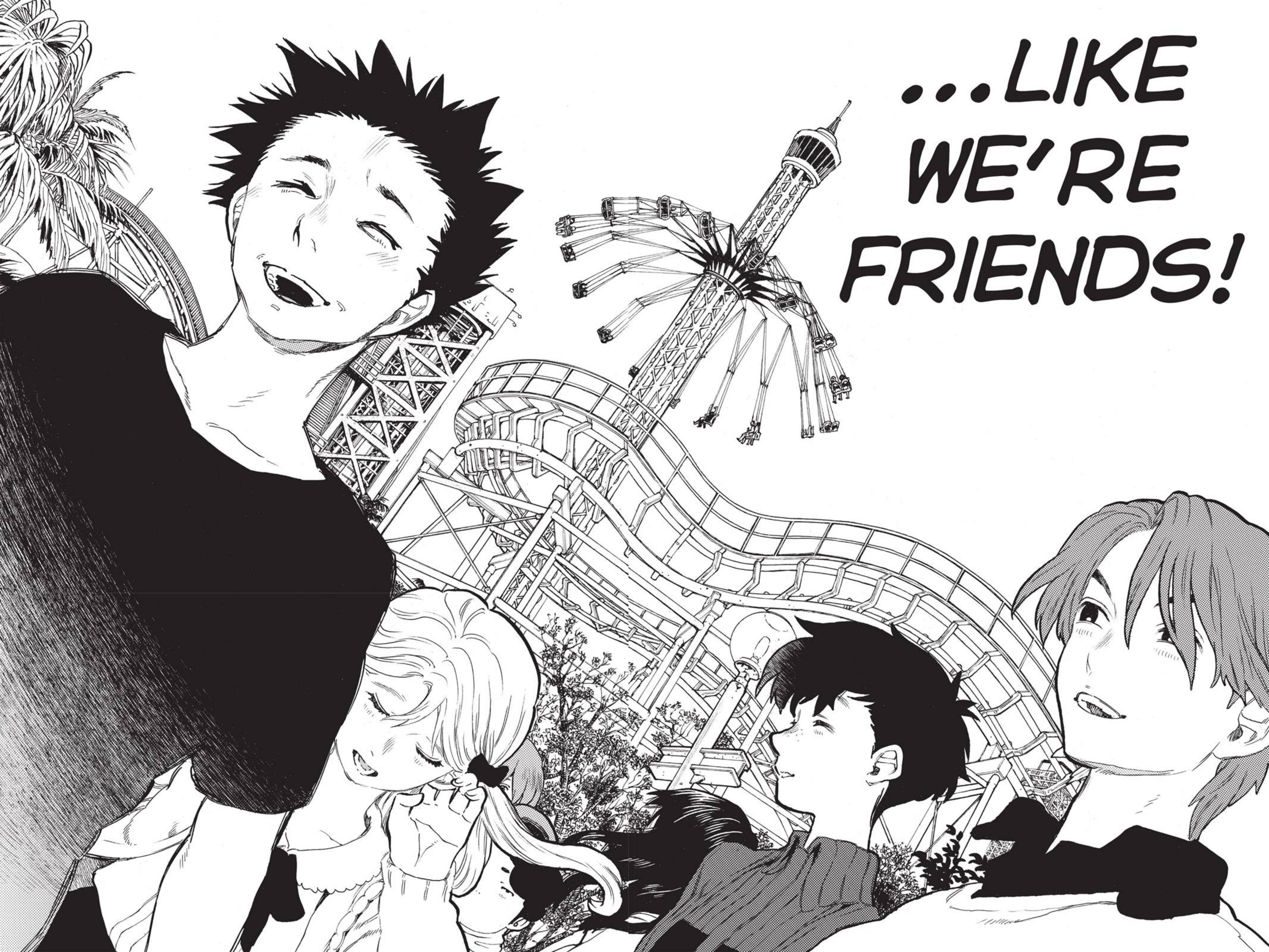
HUH?
"FUN"?

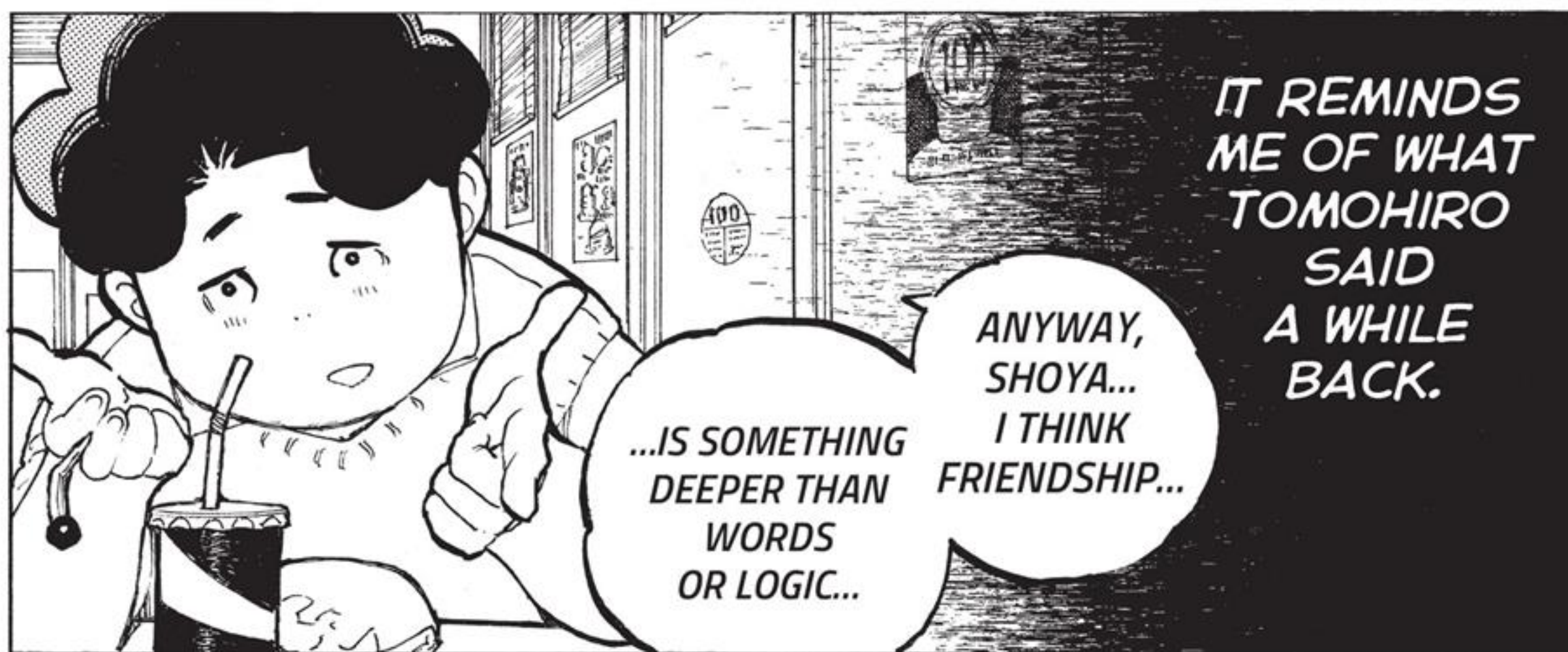


...LIKE WE'RE...



**...LIKE
WE'RE
FRIENDS!**

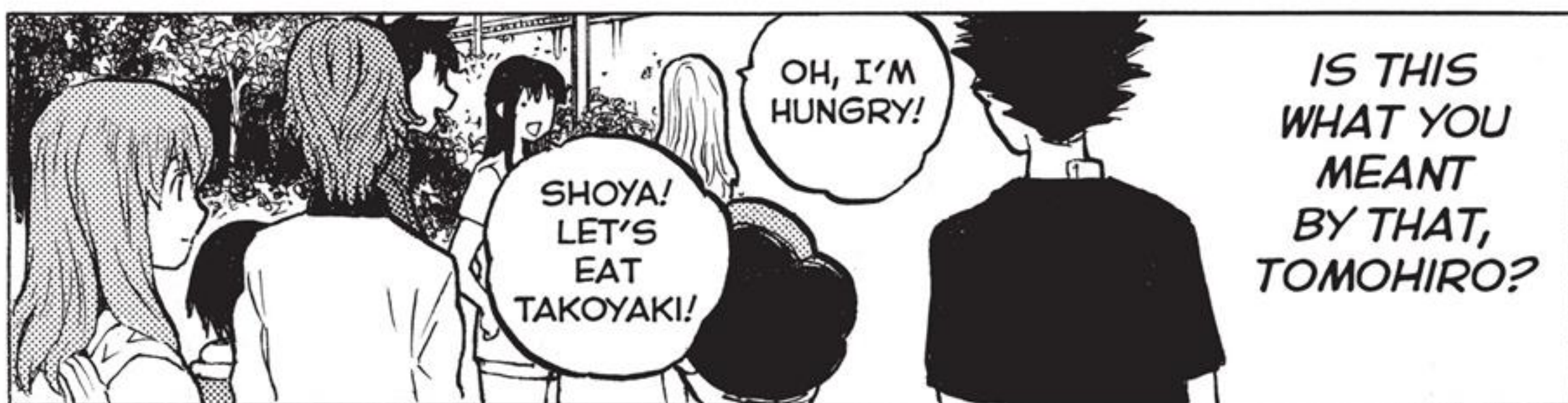




IT REMINDS
ME OF WHAT
TOMOHIRO
SAID
A WHILE
BACK.

...IS SOMETHING
DEEPER THAN
WORDS
OR LOGIC...

ANYWAY,
SHOYA...
I THINK
FRIENDSHIP...



OH, I'M
HUNGRY!

SHOYA!
LET'S
EAT
TAKOYAKI!

IS THIS
WHAT YOU
MEANT
BY THAT,
TOMOHIRO?



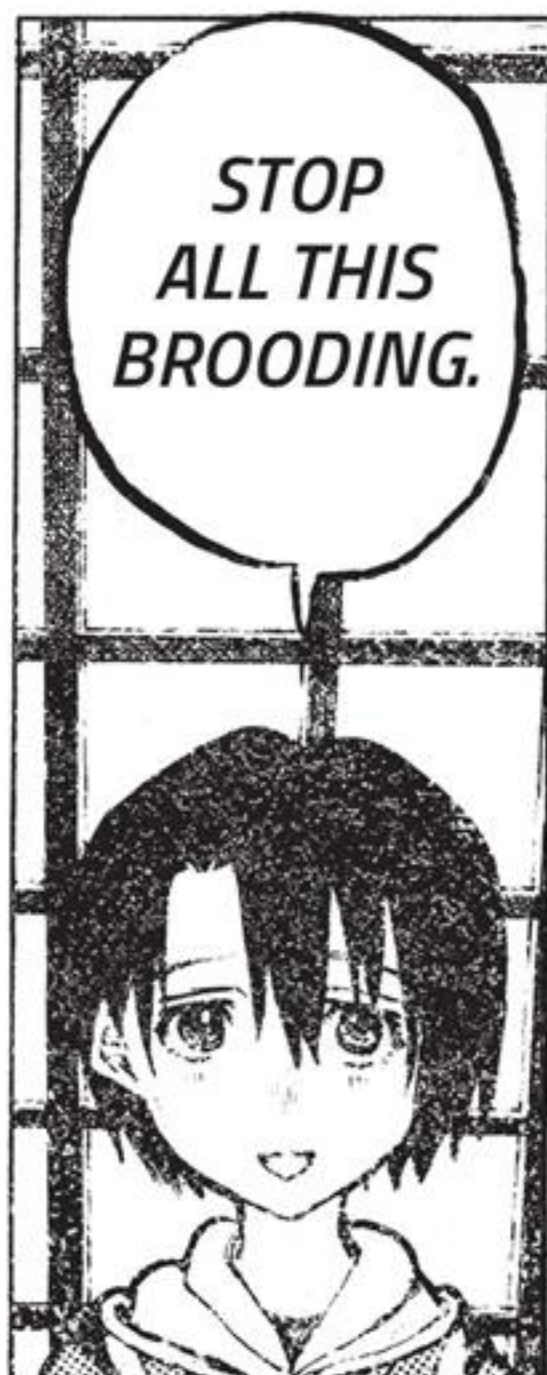
THANKS!

NOT
SOMETHING
YOU
MULL
OVER IN
YOUR
HEAD.

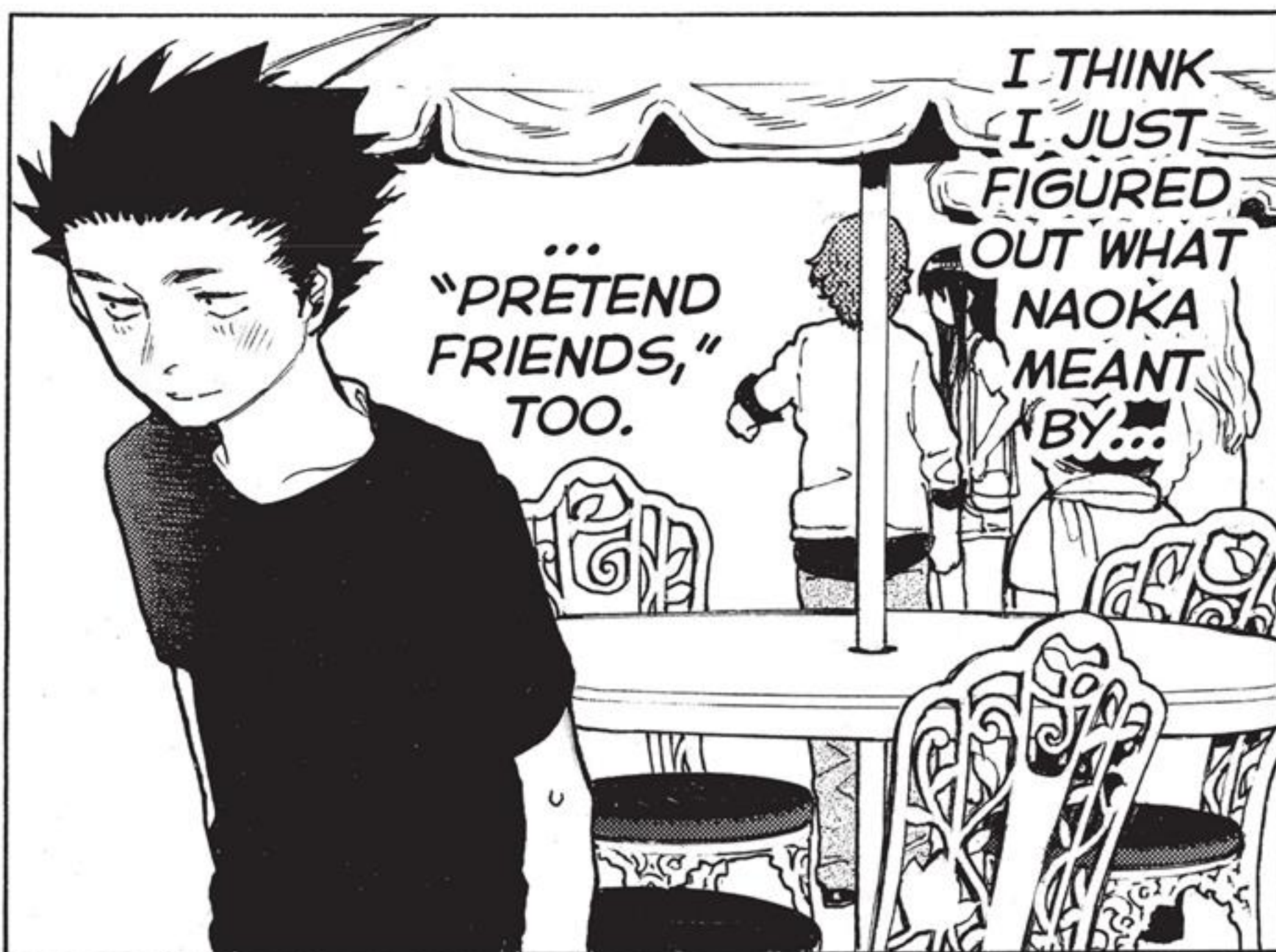


OH, THEN
I'LL GO
BUY
SOME!

BEING
"FRIENDS"
IS SOME-
THING YOU
FEEL.



STOP
ALL THIS
BROODING.



...
"PRETEND
FRIENDS,"
TOO.

I THINK
I JUST
FIGURED
OUT WHAT
NAOKA
MEANT
BY...

BUT LIVING
LIFE TO THE
MAX LIKE
THIS
MADE ME
FORGET ALL
ABOUT IT.



...AND IT
MADE ME
ANXIOUS
AND
PARANOID.

YEAH,
I'VE BEEN
TOO HUNG
UP ON
THE WORD
"FRIEND"...



...BUT
THAT'S
OKAY.

SURE, MAYBE
SOME OF THEM
ARE WEIRDOS, OR
PEOPLE I DON'T
KNOW VERY WELL...

THANK
YOU!

THE GOOD
THINGS AND
THE BAD
COME
TOGETHER.
THAT'S
WHAT MAKES
A "FRIEND."

I MEAN,
THEY'RE
ALL
SMILING,
AND SO
AM I.

もくもく
FWUF FWUF

